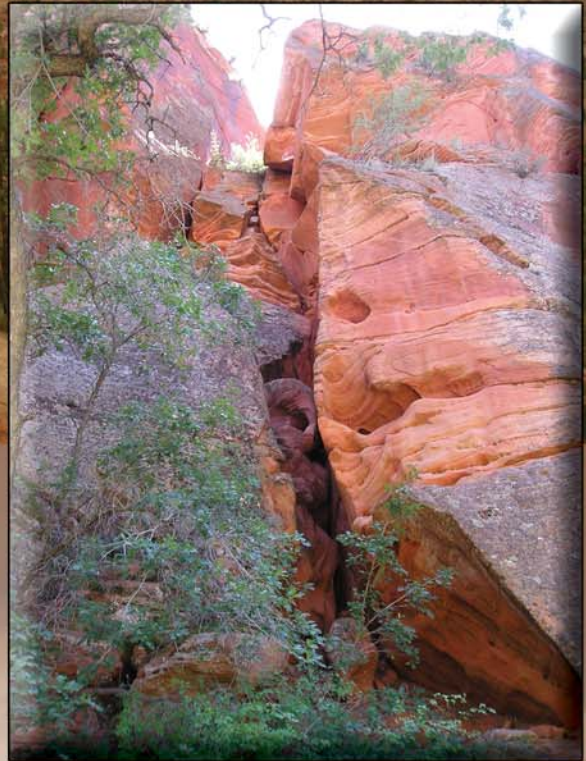


Kanab Field Office Draft Resource Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Volume 2 of 2



BLM

KANAB FIELD OFFICE



October 2007

BLM Mission

To sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

BLM-UT-PL-07-009-1610

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DES 07-46



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Utah State Office
P.O. Box 45155
Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1345
<http://www.blm.gov>



IN REPLY REFER TO:
1610
(UT-935)

Dear Reader:

Enclosed for your review is the Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) (Draft RMP/EIS) for the Utah Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Kanab Field Office. This document was prepared by the BLM in consultation with cooperating agencies, and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), implementing regulations, the BLM land use planning handbook (H-1601-1), and other applicable law.

The planning area consists of about 2.9 million acres of land, which includes about 550,000 acres of public lands managed by the Kanab Field Office. When approved, this RMP will replace the Cedar-Beaver-Garfield-Antimony RMP, as well as the Escalante, Paria, Vermilion, and Zion Management Framework Plans. The overall intent of the revised RMP is to develop a land use plan that will guide the management of public lands administered by the Kanab Field Office into the future. The Kanab Draft RMP/EIS and supporting information is available on the project web site at: www.blm.gov/rmp/ut/kanab.

The BLM encourages you to provide information and comments pertaining to the analysis presented in the Kanab RMP. Of particular importance is feedback concerning the adequacy and accuracy of the four proposed alternatives, the analysis of their respective management decisions, and any new information that would help the BLM produce a Proposed RMP. In developing the Proposed RMP/Final EIS, which is the next phase of the planning process, the decision-maker may select various management decisions from each of the alternatives analyzed in the Draft RMP/EIS for the purpose of creating a management strategy that best meets the needs of the resources and values in this area under the multiple use and sustained yield mandate. Your timely comments will help formulate the Proposed RMP/Final EIS.

Public meetings to provide an overview of the document, respond to questions, and take public comments will be held subsequent to the release of the draft. These meetings will be announced by local media and through public mailings. Public meetings will be held at Kanab, Panguitch, Escalante, St. George, and Salt Lake City, Utah.

Comments may be submitted electronically at: UT_Kanab_Comments@blm.gov. Comments may also be submitted by mail to:

Kanab Field Office RMP Comments
Bureau of Land Management
Kanab Field Office
318 East 100 North
Kanab, UT 84741

To facilitate analysis of comments and information submitted, we strongly encourage you to submit comments in an electronic format.

Your review and comments on the content of this document are critical to the success of this planning effort. If you wish to submit comments on the Draft RMP/DEIS, we request that you make them as specific as possible. Comments are more helpful if they include suggested changes, sources, or methodologies, and reference to a specific section or page number. Comments that are only opinions or preferences will be considered and included in the decision-making process, but such comments will not receive a formal response from the BLM. Comments will be accepted for ninety (90) calendar days following the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) publication of its Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register*. The BLM can best use your comments and resource information submissions if received within the review period.

It is the BLM's practice to make comments, including names and addresses of respondents, available for public review. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. Although you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations and businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

The BLM would like to thank our cooperating agency partners that have worked so hard to help us complete this document. They have provided support and expertise to facilitate focusing the issues and developing alternatives to help resolve the many compelling resource concerns that face the Kanab Field Office. We would like to recognize especially Kane and Garfield counties, the State of Utah and its agencies, and the Kaibab-Paiute Tribe as cooperating agencies on this Draft RMP/EIS. Their experience and dedication have made this a better process and the BLM looks forward to continuing to work with them. We also extend thanks to those individuals and organizations that have provided extensive information and many excellent ideas that have been considered during this process.

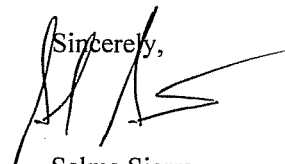
Copies of the Draft RMP/EIS have been sent to affected federal, state, and local government agencies. Copies of the Draft RMP/EIS are available for public inspection at the Kane County, Garfield County, and Salt Lake City public libraries. Copies are also available for public inspection at the following BLM locations:

Kanab Field Office
318 East 100 North
Kanab, UT 84741

Utah State Office, BLM
440 West 200 South, Suite 500
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Thank you for your continued interest in the Kanab Field Office Resource Management Plan. We appreciate the information and suggestions you have contributed to the planning process.

Sincerely,




Selma Sierra
Utah State Director

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

DRAFT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN
AND DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR THE
KANAB FIELD OFFICE

PREPARED BY THE
KANAB FIELD OFFICE

OCTOBER 2007



Selma Sierra
State Director, Utah

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